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1945 OUTLOOK ISSUE

THE Vegetable SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS FOR TRUCK CROPS FOR FRESH MARKET SHIPMENT, AND FOR ALL FARM PRODUCTS, AND WHOLESALE PRICES FOR ALL COMMODITIES, UNITED STATES, 1928-44.

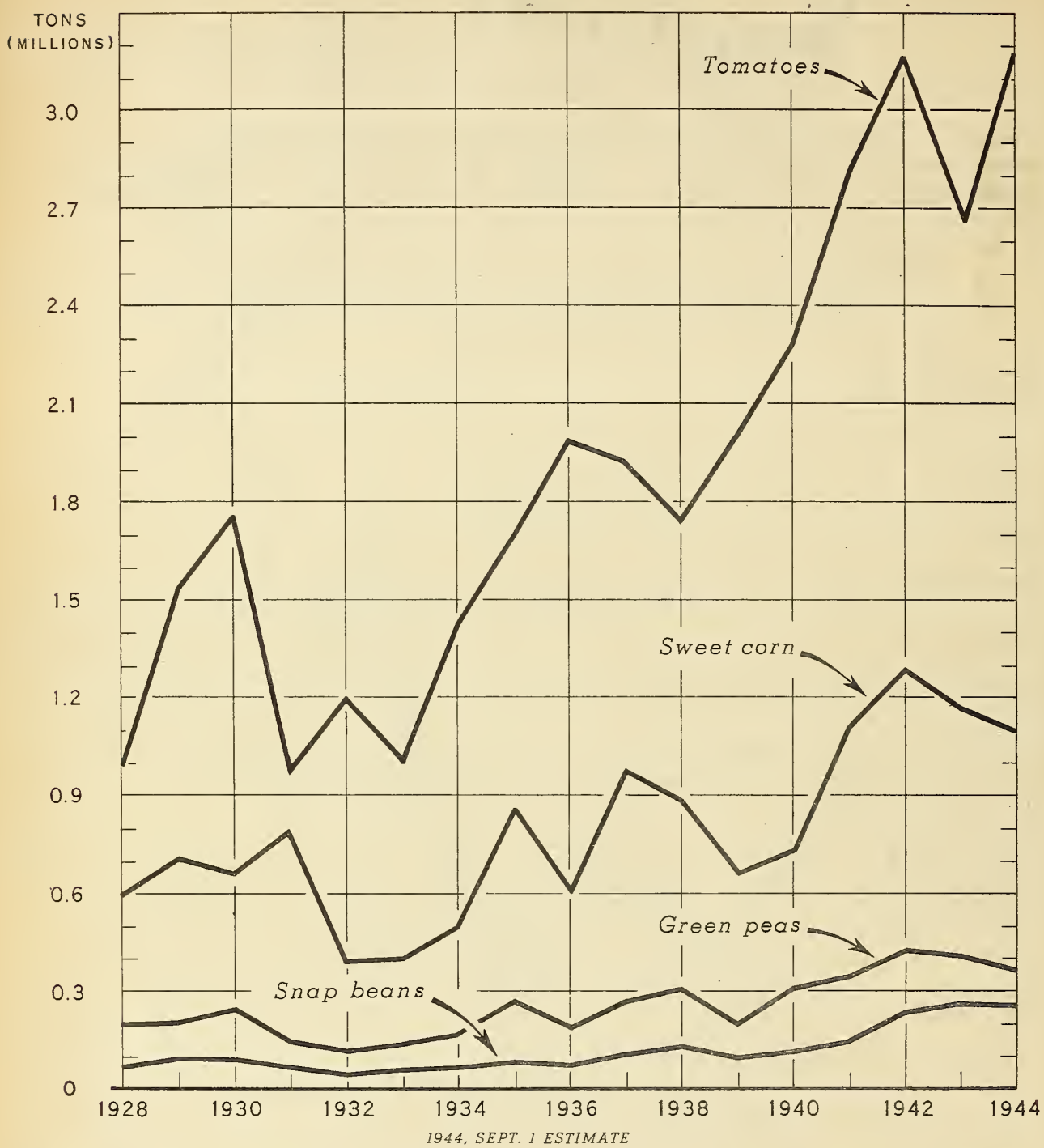
INDEX NUMBERS (1910-14=100)

* MONTHLY INDEX FOR 1944 ADJUSTED FOR SEASONAL VARIATION
△ AUGUST 1909-JULY 1914=100

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG 43882 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

The index of prices received by farmers for commercial truck crops for fresh market shipment increased sharply from 91 percent in 1939 to an average of 245 for 1943 (1910-14 = 100). In 1943 and for most of the first 9 months of 1944, truck crop prices have averaged considerably higher than the index of all farm products, and both indices are markedly higher than the wholesale prices of all commodities. However, the level of truck crop prices in 1943 and 1944 was relatively much lower than the index of farm wage rates (318, July 1944), an important item in costs of truck crop production. It is unlikely that this relatively high level of truck crop prices compared with all farm products will be maintained after the end of fighting in Europe.

PRODUCTION OF FOUR IMPORTANT COMMERCIAL TRUCK CROPS FOR PROCESSING, UNITED STATES, 1928-44



1944, SEPT. 1 ESTIMATE

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 43883 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Four crops--tomatoes, sweet corn, green peas, and snap beans--represent approximately 90 percent of the total tonnage of the 11 important commercial truck crops for processing in 1944. A considerable increase in the production of these crops has occurred to meet the increased needs of the war period. The 4-year (1941-44) average production was larger than the pre-war (1935-39) average production by 130 percent for snap beans, 58 percent for tomatoes, 57 percent for green peas, and 47 percent for sweet corn. Post-war adjustments probably will include some reduction in the acreage of truck crops for processing.

THE VEGETABLE SITUATION

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Summary

Review of 1944

Prices received by farmers for fresh market truck crops during the summer season averaged nearly as high as a year earlier even though supplies were approximately one-fifth larger. Prices during early fall are likely to follow the general course that prevailed last fall, when they advanced slightly. Prices to growers this season for truck crops for processing have been at levels as high as those of 1943 or slightly higher.

During recent weeks, farmers received moderately higher prices for potatoes than a year earlier, a reflection of shorter supplies. For the same reason, prices are expected to advance this fall and winter, approaching ceiling levels. Prices for sweetpotatoes declined seasonally during the past month, and by mid-September they were moderately below the relatively high prices of a year earlier. Prices for dry edible beans and peas continue to reflect support-price levels.

Supplies of fresh market truck crops this fall are expected to equal the record large supplies of last fall. For the entire year 1944, the aggregate tonnage of commercial truck crops for fresh market is expected to be the largest on record, about one-fifth larger than production in 1943, one-tenth larger than the previous record in 1942, and about one-fifth larger

than the 10-year (1933-42) average. Civilian per capita consumption in 1944 is expected to be 5 to 10 percent larger than in 1943.

Production of commercial truck crops for processing is expected to be about one-tenth larger this season than last but about 5 percent smaller than the record large production of 1942. Although the prospective canned pack of vegetables and vegetable juices of the 1944-45 season is about as large as the pack of the 1943-44 season, civilians may receive 10 to 15 percent less than last season because of increased military and other non-civilian requirements. Total supplies for civilian use, however, include a very large supply of home canned food.

Although this year's crop of potatoes is slightly larger than average, civilian per capita supplies for the 1944-45 season will be the smallest on record if prospective Government requirements are met in full. The 1944 crop of sweetpotatoes is indicated to be slightly larger than average, but about 5 percent smaller than the 1943 crop; hence civilian supplies probably will be slightly smaller than last season.

The 1944 crops of dry edible beans and peas, although about one-sixth smaller than in 1943, are considerably larger than average. Supplies of beans in prospect for civilians in 1944-45 are about one-fifth less than in 1943-44.

Prospects for 1945

With present high levels of acreage and production, prices of truck crops, which reached a peak in 1943 and will average about 10 percent lower in 1944, are likely to decline still further in 1945 if hostilities in Europe have ended by next spring. Reductions in the output of war goods are expected to be accompanied by a reduction in consumer income and consequently in demand for truck crops.

It is quite possible that reductions in quantities purchased by consumers and smaller requirements for noncivilian use, particularly for processed vegetables for the 1944-45 season, would warrant an acreage of fresh market truck crops in 1945 as much as 10 percent below 1944 and an acreage of vegetables for processing as much as 15 percent below.

The need of a substantial reduction in the acreage of dry field peas has already been indicated by the announcement of the 1945 goal, which provides for a reduction of 40 percent from the 1944 acreage, and a decrease in the support prices averaging about 20 percent.

The current production of potatoes, sweetpotatoes, and dry beans is mor nearly in line with prospective consumer demand and noncivilian requirements, which suggest relatively little change from this year's acreages. Prices for potatoes, sweetpotatoes, beans, and peas are expected to continue to reflect at least 90 percent of parity under price-supporting programs.

-- September 27, 1944

TRUCK CROPS FOR FRESH MARKET SHIPMENT

Commercial Production for 1944 Largest on Record

The aggregate tonnage of commercial truck crops for fresh market shipment in 1944 is now expected to be the largest on record, exceeding the previous high record of 1942 by about 11 percent. The production probably will be about 18 percent larger than in 1943, and 22 percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average. The total acreage of commercial fresh market truck crops in 1944 was about one-fifth larger than in 1943, and about one-tenth larger than the 10-year average. Larger noncivilian requirements for fresh vegetables in 1944, amounting to a little more than one-tenth of the total production, will result in slightly lower civilian per capita consumption of fresh vegetables than the record high of 1942, but about 7 percent more than civilians consumed in 1943.

1944 Average Prices Lower Than 1943 but Higher Than 1942

Prices received by farmers for commercial truck crops for fresh market shipment were lower during the late winter and spring of 1944 than for the same period in 1943, when prices were exceptionally high. By mid-summer of 1944 the index of prices (1910-14 = 100) was about the same as a year earlier. During the remaining months of 1944, prices probably will approxima the 1943 level for the corresponding months. For the year 1943 and on the average for the first nine months of 1944, the index of prices received by farmers for commercial truck crops for fresh market was considerably above the price index of all farm products. It seems probable that, when the needs for expanded production arising from war conditions are lessened by the cessation of hostilities, some adjustments, mostly downward, will be made in prices of truck crops in relation to all farm products. Even under wartime conditions, some adjustment should be made for certain perishable vegetable crops, particularly where it is apparent that there has been over-expansion in production. The following review of individual seasons of truck crop production in 1944 provides a basis for judging desirable adjustments for the 1945 season.

Big Expansion in 1944 Winter Season Truck Crops

The acreage of winter season (January, February, March) commercial truck crops in 1944 was 27 percent larger than in 1943, and also 27 percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average. Very favorable yields per acre resulted in a total production 35 percent larger than in 1943, and 52 percent larger than the 10-year average. As a consequence of these large supplies, the average level of monthly prices moved downward, whereas there is usually a slight upward seasonal movement at this time of year. Unless there is some downward adjustment in the acreage and production of certain winter truck crops in 1945, prices received for these crops probably will be no higher than those of 1944 and perhaps not even as high.

In spite of the expanded wartime demands, the increase in the supplies of some truck crops was so great that prices received by farmers dropped sharply from January to March in 1944. Prices for beets declined from 60 cents per bushel in January to 35 cents in March, and supplies were 38 percent larger for this season than in 1943, and 67 percent larger than the 10-year average. Prices received by farmers for cabbage declined from $47.0 per ton in January to $21.40 in March, with supplies 80 percent larger than for this season in 1943 and 95 percent larger than the 10-year average. Other crops showing sharp decreases in price associated with increased supplies during this period include snap beans, lettuce, celery, green peppers, and carrots. Prices for tomatoes and cauliflower were at about the same levels as in the 1943 season.

1944 Spring Season Truck Crop Supplies Larger, Prices Lower Than in 1943

The 1944 spring season (April, May, June) index of prices received by farmers for commercial truck crops averaged 225 (1910-14 = 100) compared with 300 for the same season in 1943, and 143 in 1942. Supplies on an aggregate tonnage basis were 15 percent larger than in 1943, and 12 percent

larger than the 10-year average. For most crops, supplies were not excessive and prices were maintained at fairly high levels. There were a few crops, however, of which the supplies were excessive relative to demand in certain months, and this resulted in a sharp reduction in prices received. The average price received by farmers for green peas in June 1944 was $1.55 per bushel, which was much lower than the $2.40 price for June 1943, and somewhat lower than the $1.90 price for June 1942. While the 1944 late spring crop of green peas was slightly smaller than the 10-year (1933-42) average, it was 48 percent larger than the 1943 crop. The early spring crop of tomatoes was 32 percent larger than in 1943 and 70 percent larger than the 10-year average. Prices received by farmers for tomatoes in May of 1944 averaged $2.50 per bushel compared with $3.15 per bushel in May for both 1943 and 1942. Green peppers and eggplant were also relatively low in price and in considerably larger than average supply. The spring crop of beets was in relatively short supply, and prices in May and June were nearly up to the high level for these months in 1943.

Summer Truck Crop Prices Averaged About the Same as in 1943 but Total Supplies were 21 Percent Larger

In mid-summer (August) 1944, the index (1910-14 = 100) of prices received by farmers for commercial truck crops was at the same level as for the same period in 1943. The index for July 1944 was slightly lower than that for July 1943. The preliminary index of 166 for September was about 8 percent lower than a year earlier. The weighted average price of 14 important fresh market vegetables on the New York City wholesale market for the week ended September 23 was slightly lower than for the corresponding week in 1943.

The aggregate tonnage of the summer season truck crops is estimated to be 21 percent larger than for the same season in 1943. Nearly all of the [illegible] increase in production over a year earlier was contributed by the crops of onions, lettuce, watermelons, cantaloups and honeydew melons. These five crops made up about two-thirds of the total tonnage of summer commercial truck crops for market in 1944. There was very little change from 1943 in the total tonnage of the other summer season truck crops.

The 1944 summer season crop of onions was 52 percent larger than in 1943 and 45 percent larger than the 10-year average. Prices received by farmers for onions, which were exceptionally high during the winter months following the short summer crop of 1943, declined sharply during the late spring of 1944. Prices declined still further in mid-summer of this year with the large volume of marketings from the large summer crop. Carlot shipments for the four-week period ended August 26 of this year were 60 percent larger than for the same period a year earlier. There is usually an upward seasonal movement in prices received for onions from September through March or April of the following year. There probably will be a less than usual seasonal increase in price this fall and winter because of the large supplies of onions. This year's large supplies of onions were due to both larger acreages and above-average yields. Even with average yields a somewhat smaller acreage in 1945 would seem advisable.

Prices received for lettuce were considerably lower during the spring and early summer than a year earlier. In spite of the summer crop being one-fifth larger than a year earlier, prices in mid-summer advanced to levels slightly higher than for the same period in 1943, and it seems likely that they will approximate the 1943 prices for the late summer and fall months.

The acreage of melons was reduced sharply in 1943, in the line with Government encouragement to use production resources more effectively. In 1944, the summer acreage of watermelons was increased 44 percent, and that of cantaloups 27 percent over the 1943 summer acreages. Although the acreages fo these crops in 1944 were less than the 10-year (1933-42) averages, prices declined sharply during the summer months, and during the first part of August prices received by farmers for watermelons were much below the August 1943 price and slightly below the August 1942 price. Prices received for cantalou in mid-summer of 1944, though lower than in 1943, were higher than in 1942.

Supplies of Fall Truck Crops Expected to Equal the Record Large Supplies Last Fall

It now appears probable that prices received by farmers for fall truck crops will average as high as or higher than in the fall of 1943 if demand continues at the present high level. Supplies are now expected to be about 2 percent larger than those of the previous record fall crop of 1943. Prices for some vegetables, however, probably will be higher than a year earlier because of smaller supplies. This probably will be true for early fall tomatoes and spinach, and fall cauliflower. Supplies larger than a year earlier are expected for the early fall crops of green peas, snap beans, cabba celery and cucumbers and for the fall crops of lettuce and lima beans. The late fall acreage of cabbage and celery is indicated to be slightly smaller than a year earlier.

A winter cabbage acreage smaller in 1945 than in 1944 is indicated from reports of intentions to plant. The intended acreage for 1945 would, however, be about one-third larger than the 10-year (1934-43) average.

Maximum Price Regulation Continued

Notices to growers of proposed maximum prices for certain vegetables to be grown for fresh market during part of the 1945 season have been made by the Office of Price Administration. These notices to growers in advance of planting are in accordance with the provisions of the recent Act of Congress extending the Office of Price Administration. Permanent ceiling prices were first effective on July 20, 1943, for lettuce and cabbage through Maximum Price Regulation 426, although temporary ceilings were previously in effect through a price-freeze order. Through amendments to this original order, ceiling pric effective for specified dates or seasons have been established from time to time for a number of fresh market vegetables. While there were periods during the 1944 season when ceilings limited prices of some vegetables, the general effect of larger supplies of vegetables has been that prices for most crops have remained at levels below the established ceilings. Fresh vegetables under ceiling prices during part or all of September of this year included cabbage, carrots, cucumbers, lettuce, onions, green peas, spinach, tomatoes, watermelons and cantaloups.

TRUCK CROPS FOR PROCESSING

Indicated Production of Truck Crops for Processing Second Largest on Record, 10 Percent Larger than 1943

This year's production of commercial truck crops for processing was indicated, on the basis of conditions September 1, to total around 5.5 million tons. Such a production would be about 10 percent larger than last year but about 5 percent less than the record large production of 1942. The indicated production of tomatoes would be a record crop, and, although only slightly larger than in 1942, it would be nearly one-fifth larger than the 1943 crop. The production of green peas is expected to be about 10 percent smaller than in 1943, but around 40 percent larger than the 10-year average. Sweet corn production is indicated to be down 6 percent from 1943 but 37 percent above the average. The production of snap beans is slightly smaller than in 1943, but the lima bean crop is up about 12 percent over the 1943 production.

Prices to Growers About Same as in 1943 or Slightly Higher

The 5.5 million tons estimated 1944 production would be 57 percent larger than the 5-year (1935-39) average. The large expansion in the production of truck crops for processing in recent years was a result of war needs, and involved a price equilization program to enable canners to pay support prices to growers, and, at the same time, pack and distribute the canned product within civilian price ceilings. Vegetables included in the program were green peas, snap beans, sweet corn and tomatoes. A recent amendment to the original War Food Order now includes in this equilization program canned green pea soup and canned tomato soup produced from fresh green peas and fresh tomatoes. In the calculation of 1944 canners' maximum ceiling prices, prices to growers about the same as or slightly higher than in 1943 were used.

Frozen Vegetable Pack in 1944 Expected to be Slightly Larger

A frozen vegetable pack around 5 percent larger than in 1943 is now anticipated. On a fresh basis this pack represents less than 3 percent of the total production of commercial truck crops for processing. Approximately three-fourths of this pack is expected to be available for civilian consumption.

Frozen vegetable holdings in cold storage of 164 million pounds on September 1 were about 30 million pounds larger than a year earlier.

Dehydrated Vegetable Pack Mainly for Noncivilian Use

It is estimated that around 95 percent of the 1944-45 total supply of dehydrated vegetables will go to military and Government uses, while civilians will receive about 5 percent of the pack for use in the manufacture of soups.

Civilian Per Capita Supplies of Commercially Canned Vegetables Expected to be Low This Year

While the total 1944-45 season pack of commercially canned vegetables and vegetable juices may be as large as or larger than the 214 million cases of the 1943-44 season pack, as long as the present high requirements for processed vegetables by Government agencies continue, the per capita supply for civilians for the 1944-45 season will be 10 to 15 percent lower than a year earlier. Such a level of consumption would be 35 to 40 percent lower than the record high rate of 41.3 pounds in 1942, and around 15 percent lower than the 1935-39 average of 31.1 pounds. Should procurement by the Government be less than is now estimated, civilian supplies would be increased accordingly. Civilian supplies also will be supplemented by large amounts of home-canned vegetables.

Demand for Canned Vegetables in 1945

It is estimated that between two-fifths and one-half of the 1944 pack of canned vegetables will be required for noncivilian uses. This is mostly Government purchases for use in connection with the war. The need for the present high level of acreage and production of commercial truck crops for processing depends to a considerable extent on the continuation of the high level of noncivilian or Government requirements. If European hostilities cease by next spring, the total requirements for canned vegetables are likely to be considerably less than in 1944, and prices for processing vegetables will decline below the high levels of 1944.

POTATOES

Review of the 1943-44 Season

Production of potatoes in 1943 was the largest on record. The crop of 465 million bushels was 9 percent larger than the previous record crop in 1928, and 28 percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average. Supplies available for food purposes were more than adequate, and, during the season ended June 30, 1944, probably as many as 18 million bushels of such supplies, or 4 percent of the entire crop, were diverted to non-food uses, mostly livestock feed. Even though civilian supplies of potatoes were abundant, per capita consumption was only slightly larger than the 5-year (1935-39) average of 130.5 pounds. The season average price per bushel received by farmers for the 1943 crop was $1.31, the highest since that for the 1929 crop.

1944 Crop Much Smaller than 1943 Crop but Slightly Above Average

The total potato crop in 1944 is indicated to be 378 million bushels, according to the September 1 report of the Crop Reporting Board. A crop of this size would be 19 percent smaller than the record large 1943 crop, but 4 percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average. The smaller crop this year than last is the consequence of both smaller acreage for harvest and smaller yield per acre. The 3,013,000 acres for harvest this year are 9 percent fewer than last year, and the yield per acre of 125.3 bushels is 10 percent smaller.

Production this year is indicated to be smaller than last year in each of the three principal groups of States - early, intermediate and late. The crop of 55 million bushels in the 12 early States was 18 percent smaller than the 1943 crop, but 27 percent larger than the 10-year average. The crop in the 7 intermediate States was particularly short this year, mainly because of unfavorable growing conditions. The crop of 23 million bushels in these 7 States is 35 percent smaller than the 1943 crop and 28 percent smaller than the 10-year average.

1944 Late Crop Indicated at 300 Million Bushels

The 300-million-bushel crop of potatoes in the 30 late States, although 63 million bushels or 17 percent smaller than the crop last year, is 4 percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average production, and the second largest late crop since 1935. The late crop is the principal source of potatoes during the fall, winter, and early spring.

Record Small Civilian Per Capita Supplies in Prospect

On the basis of present estimates of supplies of potatoes and requirements for them, supplies available to civilians for use as food during the 1944-45 season will be about one-sixth less than civilian consumption last season, when supplies were abundant, and also about one-sixth less than the average consumption for the period 1935-39. Because of the short crop this year in the 7 intermediate States, largely the result of hot, dry weather, consumption during thesummer months probably was at a slightly smaller rate than the average for this season. Hence consumption over the remainder of the season can be somewhat above this average, but still much below the rate of a year earlier. If potatoes are eaten at too rapid a rate this fall and winter, supplies may be temporarily short next spring.

Prices Downward in August, Upward in September

Farmers received an average of $1.59 per bushel for potatoes on August 15, 1944, a price 21 cents higher than a month earlier and 2 cents higher than a year earlier. The high August price this year reflects mainly the record small production of potatoes in the intermediate States. The f.o.b. price per 100 pounds of U. S. No. 1 Cobbler potatoes at shipping points in central New Jersey, one of the 7 intermediate States, declined from $3.30 for the week ended August 12 to $2.70 for the week ended September 2, as shipments from the intermediate States increased to a peak. The price then advanced to $3.20 for the week ended September 16 as shipments decreased. The last figure is 63 cents more than a year earlier.

The market movement of new crop potatoes from the late States was strong by late August, and for the week ended September 23 amounted to 6,508 cars. Total commercial shipments from all States for the same week amounted to 6,776 cars compared with 6,884 cars for the corresponding week last year. Prices f.o.b. cars at local shipping points in Maine, Wisconsin, and New York averaged moderately higher for the week ended September 23, 1944, than for the corresponding week a year earlier.

Because of prospective low yields per acre resulting from unfavorable growing conditions, f.o.b. ceiling prices in most of the eastern States were revised upward in August and September. In September such prices were revised upward in a few additional States elsewhere. In most cases f.o.b. ceiling prices per 100 pounds of U. S. No. 1 potatoes were adjusted upward 90 cents in August. This increase later was extended through September 16, after which it became only 45 cents for the rest of September. Although some rise in price followed these upward adjustments in ceilings, prices generally remained well below the new ceilings because of the increasing quantities of potatoes being marketed, and at mid-September still were somewhat below ceilings. Prices generally are at seasonal low levels in September or October, when harvesting of the late crop is at a height. Because of the prospective small supplies available to consumers this season and the high level of consumer incomes, prices are likely to advance seasonally this fall and winter, reflecting the ceiling levels now established for the 1944 crop.

Loan Program Now in Effect

Details of the loan program for 1944 crop late potatoes, including a schedule of loan rates, were announced September 18, 1944, by the War Food Administration. This program is part of the price-support program for 1944-crop potatoes, which was discussed in the April 1944 issue of "The Vegetable Situation." However, it is planned that loans shall constitute the only means of price support for the 1944 crop of late potatoes. The loan program will make loans available from September 18 through December 15 on potatoes in farm and warehouse storage to growers, associations of growers, and certified dealers and processors. Examples of loan rates per 100 pounds of potatoes in farm storage in important surplus-producing areas are as follows: Maine, U. S. No. 1, premium varieties, $1.30; other varieties, $1.21. Maine, U. S. No. 1 Size B, and U. S. No. 2, premium varieties, $0.43; other varieties, $0.38. Idaho, all varieties, U. S. No. 1, $1.21; U. S. No. 1 Size B, and U. S. No. 2, $0.38. Northern Minnesota, all varieties, U. S. No. 1, $1.12; U. S. No. 1 Size B, and U. S. No. 2, $0.34. Comparable loan rates for potatoes in other approved storage are 10 cents higher.

Borrowers are responsible for the quantity and quality of the potatoes stored, although the loans are non-recourse concerning market price. Loans are payable wholly or in part on demand, but not later than March 31, 1945. Borrowers may not voluntarily tender potatoes in satisfaction of loans before January 1, 1945, except when necessary to avoid excessive spoilage. When potatoes are so tendered, borrowers will receive the full support price, even though the loan rates are slightly less than the support prices.

Increase in Acreage of Early Potatoes for 1945 Winter Season in Prospect

Farmers in Florida and Texas will plant 15,400 acres to commercial early potatoes for harvest during the 1945 winter season, if they carry out their early intentions. Such an acreage would represent an increase of 900 acres over the 1944 acreage, and be 2,780 acres larger than the 10-year

(1934-43) average. However, production from this early acreage will contribute only a small percentage of the market supplies of potatoes during the 1945 winter season. In the preceding winter season, weekly carlot shipments of commercial early potatoes represented only about 2.5 percent of total weekly carlot shipments.

SWEETPOTATOES

Review of the 1943-44 Season

The 1943 crop of sweetpotatoes, estimated at 73 million bushels, was 8 percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average production but 16 percent smaller than the record large 1932 crop. Civilian per capita consumption amounted to about 22 pounds during the 1943-44 season, slightly less than the 5-year (1935-39) average. The season average price per bushel received by farmers was $2.05, the highest on record and exceeding by 36 cents the previous record high in 1919. Sweetpotatoes were placed under price ceilings in late December 1943 at price levels prevailing at that time.

1944 Crop of Sweetpotatoes Nearly as Large as 1943 Crop

Production of sweetpotatoes in 1944 is indicated to be 68.8 million bushels, 5 percent less than the 72.6 million bushels in 1943 but 2 percent more than the average of 67.2 million bushels for the 10 years 1933-42. Although this year's yield per acre of 83.4 bushels is 2 percent larger than the yield last year, this year's acreage for harvest of 824,000 acres is 7 percent smaller than the acreage last year.

Louisiana Supplied Most of Recent Shipments of Sweetpotatoes

Shipments of sweetpotatoes by rail and boat totaled 269 cars for the week ended September 23, 1944 -- 23 cars more than for the corresponding week a year earlier. Louisiana supplied nearly half of the shipments, although a considerable number of cars also were supplied from Virginia and other States.

Recent Prices Lower Than a Year Ago and Declining Seasonally

Farmers received an average of $2.58 per bushel for sweetpotatoes in August, 1944 -- 28 cents more than a month earlier but 20 cents less than a year earlier. Since mid-August prices have declined seasonally. The f.o.b. price per bushel for U. S. No. 1 Golden sweetpotatoes at Onley, Virginia, was $1.89 for the week ended September 23. On the New York City wholesale market, the price per bushel for Golden sweetpotatoes from Virginia declined from $3.15 for the week ended August 19, 1944, to $2.12 for the week ended September 23, 1944, reaching a level 57 cents lower than a year earlier.

Ceiling prices for the 1944 crop of sweetpotatoes, which were described briefly in the July 1944 issue of "The Vegetable Situation," continue unchanged as to amount for each successive period of time, but the effective

date of each price has been postponed 10 days. For example, the price of $1.90 for Zone 1, consisting of Louisiana and Texas, originally scheduled to apply to the period September 16-October 31, now will apply to the period September 26-November 10.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

1944 Crop One-Sixth Smaller Than 1943 Crop

Production of dry edible beans is estimated at 17,686,000 bags (bags of 100 pounds, uncleaned), 16 percent less than in 1943 but 17 percent more than the 10-year (1933-42) average. Stocks of dry beans on September 1, 1944, consisted of 68,000 bags (uncleaned) on farms and 1,898,000 bags (cleaned) stored in the usual commercial storage places, and under War Food Administration storage contracts in or near producing areas. Comparable stocks September 1, 1943, consisted of 265,000 bags on farms and 1,883,000 bags in other storage. Total supplies are considerably smaller this season than last, and civilians are expected to receive about one-fifth less beans than last season, when they received nearly 10 pounds per capita.

Government Set-Aside of Specified Classes of Beans Increased

Through the issuance of Amendment 6 to War Food Order 45, effective September 5, 1944, the War Food Administration increased from 25 to 40 percent the quantity of certain designated classes of dry edible beans required to be set aside by country shippers for sale to Government agencies during the crop year beginning September 1, 1944. This means that for every 100 bags sold into civilian trade channels, 40 bags must be set aside for sale to Government agencies. Classes of beans affected by this amendment are Pea, Great Northern, Flat Small White, Small White, Small Red, and Pinto. For Baby Lima, Pink, Light Red Kidney, Dark Red Kidney, and Western Red Kidney, the set aside requirement of 100 percent continues. Small White beans, formerly in this group, have been transferred to the present 40 percent group, and Cranberry beans, previously in the old 25 percent group, have been eliminated from the order.

Prices Continue Steady

Prices received by farmers for beans August 15, 1944, averaged $6.16 per 100 pounds, 3 cents higher than a month earlier and 54 cents higher than a year earlier. Prices throughout the season ended August 31, 1944, have been relatively stable, reflecting support-price levels.

Support Price Program for 1944 Crop of Dry Edible Beans

The 1944 crop of dry edible beans is covered by a price support program, as was the 1943 crop. Tentative features of this program were described in the April 1944 issue of "The Vegetable Situation." Since then the program has been developed more fully, as indicated in announcements made September 9 and 11 by the War Food Administration.

The program as more fully developed includes: (1) price supporting agreements with bean dealers under which they agree to pay the equivalent of the support price to growers; (2) payment of a subsidy to dealers in an amount by which the announced support prices exceed the applicable Office of Price Administration maximum prices on beans sold into civilian trade channels: (3) purchase of designated classes of beans in carload lots, cleaned and bagged, f.o.b. car at country shipping points, at specified prices; (4) purchase of thresher-run beans from growers where it is not possible for them to dispose of their beans through trade channels at the equivalent of the support prices; and (5) non-recourse loans on thresher-run beans stored on farms.

Support prices for eligible classes and grades of beans, cleaned and bagged in 100-pound containers, with all charges paid, in carload lots, f.o.b. car at country shipping point, are as follows per 100 pounds of U. S. No. 1 beans: Pea, Medium White, Great Northern, Small White, Flat Small White, Pinto, Pink, Small Red, and Cranberry, $6.50; California Blackeye, $6.375; Lima and Baby Lima, $7.50; and Light Red Kidney, Dark Red Kidney, and Western Red Kidney, $8.00. For U. S. choice hand-picked and U. S. extra No. 1 beans the prices are 10 cents higher, and for U. S. No. 2 beans they are 15 cents lower.

Purchases will be made at support prices through June 30, 1945, and loans ranging from $4.60 to $5.50 per 100 pounds will be made on thresher-run beans of all classes (except Blackeye, Tepary and Mixed) which have a moisture content of not more than 18 percent, and which contain not more than 10 percent of other defects after deduction for foreign material.

DRY FIELD PEAS

Production Lower than in 1943

The 1944 crop of dry edible peas is indicated to be 8.9 million bags, or 18 percent smaller than in 1943. This production is, however, at a relatively high level, being nearly three times as large as the 10-year (1933-42) average. The increase in production in recent years was in response to large wartime needs. It is estimated that civilian requirements for the 1944-45 year represent only about one-fifth of the 1944 production. Stocks of dry peas on farms and in usual commercial and War Food Administration storage places, on September 1, 1944, totaled 1,480,000 (bags of 100 pounds) compared with 328,000 a year earlier, according to a survey made by the Crop Reporting Board.

Support Price Program for 1944 Crop Dry Wrinkled Peas Used for Feed

The War Food Administration will make adjustment payments to dealers on 1944 crop dry wrinkled peas sold for use as feed. The original 1944 support programs, announced March 4, 1944, involved outright purchase at $3.50 and $3.25 per 100 pounds f.o.b. country shipping point for wrinkled peas in carlots, cleaned and bagged and graded U. S. No. 1 and U. S. No. 2, respectively. It was contemplated that after handling, processing, and bagging these prices would give a minimum return to the producer of about $2.50 and $2.25 per 100 pounds for the two grades, respectively.

Under the new program, effective September 6, 1944, the dealer will buy the dry wrinkled peas from the producer on a thresher-run basis for $2.65 per 100 pounds (in bags) which would grade U. S. No. 2 or better after normal processing. The War Food Administration will pay the dealer 40 cents per 100 pounds (if sold at the minimum price) to cover the difference in the purchase and sale price. In addition, the dealer will be paid 20 cents per 100 pounds for purchasing, handling, and merchandising the peas as feed, or a total payment of 60 cents per 100 pounds.

1945 Acreage Goal 40 Percent Lower Than 1944 Planted Acreage

The goal announced for dry peas is for 450,000 acres in 1945, or 40 percent less than the indicated 1944 acreage. This is still about 60 percent above the pre-war 1937-41 acreage. On the basis of the 10-year (1933-42) average yield per acre and average harvested acreage in percent of planted acreage, a crop of 4.3 million bags would be expected from 450,000 planted acres.

Support Price Reduced for the 1945 Crop

The 1945 price-support program announced in connection with the 1945 goal would give growers $4.50 per 100 pounds of U. S. No. 1 dry edible smooth peas of the varietal types Alaska, Bluebell, Scotch Green, First and Best, Marrowfat, and White Canada, cleaned and bagged, f.o.b. car at country points, and $4.25 for U. S. No. 2 of the same types. No price-support program for dry wrinkled peas is planned. These prices compare with the support prices for the 1944 crop of $5.65 per 100 pounds U. S. No. 1 grade, and $5.40 per 100 pounds for No. 2 grade.

The average price received by farmers for dry field peas was $4.91 per hundred pounds on August 15 of this year, while on the same date in 1943 the price was $4.76 per hundred pounds.

VEGETABLE SEEDS

Stocks of vegetable seeds on June 30, 1944, carried over by 265 dealers and the Government, amounting to 150,303,000 pounds, were the largest in 5 years, according to reports from a nation-wide survey. This was 66 percent more than the 4-year (1939-42) average stocks. Stocks of the larger seeds -- beans, peas, and sweet corn -- were very large, totaling 137,393,000 pounds, compared with an average of 77,380,000 pounds. Stocks of the small or light seeds such as beet, carrot, onion, tomato, etc., totaling 12,910,000 pounds, although 23 percent larger than in 1943, were 1.5 percent below the average of 13,104,000 pounds. Stocks were much below average for salsify, kohlrabi, dwarf wax beans, cabbage, cucumbers, and garden beets.

Table 1.- Truck crops for market: Commercial acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944

Crop and seasonal group 1/	Acreage			Unit	Yield per acre			Production		
	Average 1933-42	1943	Preliminary 1944		Average 1933-42	1943	1944	Average 1933-42	1943	Indicated 1944
	Acres	Acres	Acres					Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
Beans, lima:										
Summer	9,610	8,700	8,890	Bu.	73	70	62	701	606	552
Fall	790	650	900	"	40	65	70	33	42	63
Beans, snap:										
Early summer	22,710	33,150	33,950	"	114	110	113	2,611	3,650	3,836
Late summer	8,480	16,500	14,500	"	99	114	102	851	1,873	1,476
Early fall	22,010	21,450	23,500	"	89	95	93	1,958	2,032	2,176
Beets:										
Summer	2,530	3,250	3,150	"	315	278	274	794	902	864
Cabbage: 2/										
Early summer	11,300	12,400	12,850	Ton	6.27	6.22	6.23	69.8	77.1	80.0
Late summer	19,600	15,290	14,930	"	6.97	7.06	6.61	136.6	108.0	98.7
Early fall (Domestic)	17,390	21,050	23,400	"	8.31	7.51	6.44	145.8	158.0	150.6
Early fall (Danish)	33,300	32,100	45,830	"	8.61	8.64	7.84	287.6	277.2	359.3
Late fall	3,740	6,100	3/ 5,600	"	6.53	5.52	---	24.1	33.7	---
Cantaloups:										
Early summer	19,260	14,450	16,500	Crate	92	117	101	1,716	1,688	1,667
Mid-summer	44,190	35,110	46,390	"	107	120	124	4,726	4,202	5,741
Late summer	21,020	10,850	13,980	"	105	98	101	2,207	1,058	1,409
Carrots:										
Summer	5,200	8,430	7,650	Bu.	354	331	312	1,847	2,787	2,386
Fall	16,390	31,810	29,160	"	394	411	373	6,456	13,060	10,877
Cauliflower:										
Summer	6,750	6,450	7,650	Crate	251	319	275	1,718	2,055	2,101
Fall	5,640	5,920	5,630	"	283	225	157	1,602	1,331	885
Celery:										
Summer	5,520	4,860	5,250	"	403	409	430	2,225	1,988	2,256
Early fall	12,350	10,930	11,900	"	350	426	407	4,326	4,660	4,848
Late fall	10,430	11,850	11,350	"	287	327	---	3,001	3,877	---

Table 1.- Truck croops for market: Commercial acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944 - Continued

Crop and seasonal group 1/	Acreage: Average 1933-42	Acreage: 1943	Acreage: Preliminary 1944	Unit	Yield per acre: Average 1933-42	Yield per acre: 1943	Yield per acre: 1944	Production: Average 1933-42	Production: 1943	Production: Indicated 1944
	Acres	Acres	Acres					Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
Corn, sweet:										
Summer	47,720	51,200	53,000	Ear	4,973	5,156	4,706	237,525	264,000	249,400
Cucumbers:										
Early summer	9,750	8,600	9,800	Bu.	126	136	135	1,227	1,167	1,322
Late summer	5,620	5,240	6,050	"	130	133	119	729	697	722
Early fall	1,600	2,350	2,400	"	66	58	68	106	137	162
Eggplant:										
Summer	1,780	2,000	2,170	"	228	222	224	405	445	486
Honeydew melons:										
Summer	7,030	6,530	9,680	Crate	240	306	292	1,657	2,000	2,830
Lettuce:										
Summer	29,680	26,200	30,800	"	157	208	212	4,574	5,443	6,515
Fall	33,100	33,380	40,670	"	143	174	160	4,695	5,823	6,515
Onions:										
Early summer	8,410	5,750	8,150	Sack	139	142	170	1,156	815	1,387
Late summer	56,730	55,240	73,810	"	208	208	235	11,799	11,498	17,377
Peas, green:										
Summer	19,740	21,290	23,690	Bu.	99	93	88	1,976	1,990	2,073
Early fall	10,460	5,200	6,000		113	113	140	1,183	587	840
Peppers, green:										
Early summer	3,280	3,320	4,550	"	174	186	137	571	616	625
Late summer	8,890	10,400	11,150	"	253	185	201	2,244	1,928	2,241
Spinach:										
Summer	4,360	5,750	7,050	"	373	286	212	1,614	1,643	1,495
Early fall	5,960	7,860	7,200	"	276	229	213	1,628	1,801	1,537
Tomatoes:										
Early summer	33,980	37,680	37,220	"	126	134	130	4,311	5,058	4,855
Late summer	47,480	54,350	53,410	"	166	175	160	7,874	9,499	8,549
Early fall	13,790	18,850	14,300	"	151	178	160	2,079	3,356	2,281

Table 1.- Truck crops for market: Commercial acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944 - Continued

Crop and seasonal group 1/	Acreage: Average 1933-42	Acreage: 1943	Acreage: Preliminary 1944	Unit	Yield per acre: Average 1933-42	Yield per acre: 1943	Yield per acre: 1944	Production: Average 1933-42	Production: 1943	Production: Indicated 1944
	Acres	Acres	Acres					Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
Watermelons:										
Early summer	196,720	108,300	159,900	Melon	231	311	285	45,224	33,657	45,640
Late summer	27,510	16,900	20,150	"	363	462	425	9,974	7,809	8,572
Total acreage estimated to date:										
Winter	239,180	238,690	303,350	Ton	3.8	4.3	4.6	915.6	1,026.1	1,389.0
Spring	552,650	486,640	594,750	"	2.6	2.9	2.8	1,452.9	1,423.1	1,648.6
Summer	685,270	588,190	696,270							
Fall	187,000	209,500	227,840							
Total	1,664,100	1,523,020	1,822,210							
Total estimated to date where 1944 production is indicated	1,649,880	1,505,070	1,805,260	Ton	3.7	4.2	4.2	6,185.6	6,387.2	7,545.1
Garlic:										
All States	4,050	3,350	3,300	Sack	38.8	39.1	47.9	158	131	158
Mint for oil:				Lb. of						
Peppermint	35,020	37,010	39,510	oil	30.0	22.3	29.0	1,050	826	1,144
Spearmint	4,930	7,730	7,700	"	31.6	30.9	29.6	156	239	228
Total	38,630	44,740	47,210	"	29.0	23.8	29.1	1,119	1,065	1,372

1/ Data for winter and spring crops are not published in this issue. The information is available in the Vegetable Situation for April and July 1944.

2/ Cabbage for kraut, which was included in all previous reports for 1944, is not included in this estimate.

3/ Intended.

Table 2.- Truck crops: Unweighted average wholesale prices for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 when quoted) at New York and Chicago, indicated periods, 1943 and 1944

Market and commodity	Unit	1943		1944			
		Month	Week ended	Month		Week ended	
		Aug.	Sept.18	July	Aug.	Sept.9	Sept.16
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
New York							
Beans, lima	Bu.	2.32	3.25	3.26	2.41	4.12	4.20
Beans, snap, green	"	1.94	2.42	1.73	2.46	3.06	4.00
Beets, topped	"	1.32	1.17	.91	.89	.82	.88
Broccoli, western	Pony crt.	8.36	5.46	7.00	6.91	7.00	7.00
" eastern	12-bunch crt.	2.98	2.17	2.52	1.86	1.91	2.06
Cabbage, domestic, N. Y.	50-lb. sack	1.57	1.52	1.24	1.63	1.61	1.74
Cantaloups, Calif.	Jumbo 36 and45	6.98	7.25	5.11	4.99	4.72	4.72
" Md.	2/3 crt.	3.40	3.00	2.20	2.44	2.38	2.31
Carrots, bunched, western	L. A. crt.	5.98	6.23	4.95	5.15	5.16	5.14
" topped, eastern	Bu.	1.13	1.35	2.33	2.20	1.97	2.12
Cauliflower, western	Pony crt.	3.00	---	---	2.47	2.34	2.55
" Catskill, N.Y.	12-head crt.	3.62	3.54	3.32	3.03	2.06	2.70
Celery, Golden Heart, N. Y.	1/2 crt.	4.74	3.62	2.42	1.48	3.88	3.00
Cucumbers	Bu.	2.47	3.48	2.11	2.11	2.71	2.36
Eggplant	"	1.44	1.35	3.28	.82	.66	.66
Honeydews, Calif.	Jumbo and Std. crt.	3.94	4.06	3.33	2.97	2.76	2.94
Kale	1 3/5 bu.	1/.89	1/1.04	.81	.79	1.02	1.00
Lettuce, Iceberg, Calif.	L. A. crt.	5.27	5.29	3.69	5.21	5.54	5.54
Onions, yellow, eastern	50-lb. sack	2.36	2.32	2.37	1.46	1.38	1.48
" sweet Spanish, western 2/	" " "	---	2.64	3/2.63	4/2.36	2.83	2.63
Peas, green, western	Bu.	3.31	4.80	3.26	3.17	4.19	4.12
Peppers, green, N. J.	"	1.35	1.92	2.26	.94	1.14	1.12
Spinach, Savoy type:							
Eastern	"	1.76	1.52	1.48	1.85	1.64	1.76
Colo.	1/2 crt.	2.57	---	2.44	3.01	---	---
Squash, acorn, N. J.	Bu.	1.51	1.62	1.65	1.34	1.25	1.35
" yellow, N. J.	"	1.19	1.81	.98	1.17	1.31	1.70
Tomatoes, N. Y.:							
6x6	Lug box	1.43	1.70	2.68	1.50	1.42	2.68
6x7	" "	1.19	1.46	2.15	1.11	.96	2.28
matoes, eastern	12-qt. Climax basket	1.00	.88	1.90	.99	1.02	1.40
Chicago							
Beans, lima	12-qt. basket	2.01	1.52	---	1.43	1.56	1.50
Beans, snap, green	Bu.	2.45	3.00	2.66	2.78	3.44	3.58
Beets, topped, Ill.	"	1.00	1.12	.83	.72	.75	.72
Broccoli, western	Pony crt.	4.99	4.84	---	5.81	5.56	5.40
Cabbage, domestic, Ill.	60-75 lb. crt.	1.63	1.76	2.04	2.07	1.88	1.58
Cantaloups, Calif.	Jumbo 36 and45	6.62	6.42	4.64	4.59	4.68	4.72
Carrots, bunched, western	L. A. crt.	4.25	4.86	4.54	4.77	4.80	4.80
" topped, Ill.	Bu.	1.58	1.60	---	1.89	1.88	1.76
Cauliflower, western	Pony crt.	2.66	2.72	3.16	2.57	2.04	1.86
Celery, Golden Heart, Mich.	Square crt.	1.61	1.32	1.73	.97	1.12	.92
" Mich.	1/2 crt.	4.45	2.38	3.34	1.90	2.22	1.70

Continued -

Table 2.- Truck crops: Unweighted average wholesale prices for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 when quoted) at New York and Chicago, indicated periods, 1943 and 1944 - Continued

Market and commodity	Unit	1943 Month Aug.	1943 Week ended Sept. 18	1944 Month July	1944 Month Aug.	1944 Week ended Sept. 9	1944 Week ended Sept. 16
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Chicago (cont'd)							
Cucumbers, Ill.	Bu.	1.66	1.72	2.11	1.61	1.94	1.92
" Mich.	"	1.96	2.10	2.44	2.00	2.21	2.18
Eggplant	"	2.49	1.92	1.83	1.74	.94	.79
Honeydews, Calif.	Jumbo and Std. crt.	3.72	3.75	2.96	2.65	2.99	2.72
Lettuce, Iceberg, western	L. A. crt.	4.92	4.81	3.08	4.85	5.12	5.12
Onions, yellow	50-lb. sack	2.15	1.86	1.84	1.77	1.37	1.30
" sweet Spanish 2/	" " "	---	2.17	3/2.28	1.82	1.87	1.68
Peas, green, western	Bu.	2.76	3.09	2.85	2.77	3.78	3.60
Peppers, green, Ill.	"	1.87	1.56	2.54	1.61	1.00	.85
" " Mich.	"	1.90	2.25	5/2.29	1.82	1.19	1.11
Spinach, flat type	"	1.78	1.82	1.78	1.75	1.56	1.79
Squash, acorn, Ill.	"	2.06	.91	1.96	1.31	.87	.86
" yellow, Ill.	"	.81	.57	.88	.53	.52	.50
Tomatoes	12-qt. Climax basket	1.30	.88	---	.96	.97	.99

Compiled from records of the Office of Distribution.
1/ Bushel. 2/ 3-inch minimum. 3/ Babaso, Calif. 4/ Yellow, Calif. 5/ La.

Table 3.- Vegetables, frozen: Cold-storage holdings, September 1, 1944, with comparisons

Commodity	1943 July 1	1943 Aug. 1	1943 Sept. 1	1944 July 1	1944 Aug. 1	1944 Sept. 1
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Asparagus	4,559	5,775	5,274	6,922	6,229	6,254
Beans, baked	1/	1/	1/	2,547	3,734	4,925
Beans, lima	4,809	4,067	4,591	2,135	1,734	3,507
Beans, snap	2,676	3,030	11,181	5,189	6,441	11,744
Broccoli, green	821	783	777	2,969	3,114	2,877
Brussels sprouts	1/	1/	1/	1,709	2,008	1,863
Cauliflower	1/	1/	1/	1,237	1,212	1,030
Corn, sweet	1,420	1,326	4,257	3,610	2,284	6,500
Peas, green	16,305	38,669	52,354	23,575	51,413	60,286
Pumpkin and squash	1/	1/	1/	2,315	2,901	2,681
Spinach	6,845	7,144	7,010	12,091	12,309	10,673
Vegetable purees	1/	1/	1/	419	520	475
Other vegetables	36,453	39,272	48,718	49,737	44,873	51,568
Total	73,888	100,066	134,162	114,455	138,772	164,383

Compiled from records of the Office of Distribution.
1/ Included in "Other vegetables."

Table 4.- Truck crops and potatoes: Carlot (rail and boat) shipments from originating points in the United States, indicated periods in 1944, with comparisons 1/

Commodity	1943				1944			
	Month			Week ended	Month			Week ended
	June	July	Aug.	Sept. 18	June	July	Aug.	Sept. 16
	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars
Beans, snap and lima	872	85	163	13	509	242	113	21
Beets	100	14	47	32	21	3	115	29
Broccoli	8	5	26	17	12	14	45	19
Cabbage	1,028	369	763	404	897	233	620	375
Cantaloups	4,355	3,183	2,066	299	4,808	5,600	3,972	416
Carrots	2,520	1,314	801	348	2,744	1,358	1,095	355
Casaba melons	---	15	14	17	---	28	27	9
Cauliflower	95	5	530	77	318	66	442	197
Celery	433	396	587	232	450	414	640	274
Corn, green	461	153	39	37	422	207	58	35
Cucumbers	571	206	82	17	929	263	103	37
Eggplant	85	18	---	---	70	9	---	---
Greens, except spinach	8	9	15	5	11	3	2	5
Honey ball melons	204	11	---	---	110	159	---	---
Honey dew melons	434	1,196	740	215	206	1,871	1,647	247
Lettuce and romaine	3,198	4,373	4,098	1,031	3,970	5,421	3,923	1,156
Mixed melons	247	31	195	54	288	215	122	54
Mixed vegetables	1,722	1,768	2,439	513	1,856	1,809	2,629	621
Onions	1,419	770	1,682	1,316	2,722	1,634	2,065	998
Peas, green	241	912	798	15	466	711	701	30
Peppers, green	249	116	11	8	340	119	18	2
Persian melons	6	1	39	9	---	5	35	18
Spinach	83	175	81	32	36	141	111	15
Sweetpotatoes	7	388	598	347	12	210	950	266
Tomatoes	5,829	1,871	1,516	587	5,240	1,972	1,454	798
Turnips and rutabagas	48	34	60	22	18	17	23	14
Watermelons	6,003	10,093	3,350	35	9,264	15,536	7,600	74
Total of above	30,254	27,511	20,740	5,682	35,744	38,260	28,510	6,065
Potatoes:								
Early	24,151	7,739	269	12	23,410	5,031	161	8
Intermediate	1,764	11,626	5,069	781	1,609	5,141	4,417	225
Late, surplus	517	3,734	12,042	4,743	2,097	4,700	13,308	4,800
Late, other	691	293	642	142	714	579	926	111
Total potatoes	27,123	23,392	18,022	5,678	27,830	15,451	18,812	5,144
Grand total	57,377	50,903	38,762	11,360	63,574	53,711	47,322	11,209

Compiled from records of the Office of Distribution.

1/ Does not include shipments by motortruck. Includes Government purchases.

Table 5.- Truck crops for processing: Planted acreage and estimated production, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944

Commodity	Planted acreage			Production			
	1933-42 average	1943	Preliminary 1944	1933-42 average	1943	Indicated 1944	1944 as % of 1943
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Tons	Tons	Tons	Percent
Asparagus, California	46,030	40,400	1/ (45,000)	50,720	44,040	---	---
Beans, green lima 2/	44,960	64,220	66,090	24,590	27,360	30,530	111.6
Beans, snap	69,980	179,300	179,040	110,600	261,900	258,100	98.5
Beets	11,670	19,200	22,200	67,300	139,500	145,300	104.2
Cabbage for kraut	20,520	15,550	20,200	160,900	107,600	146,900	136.5
Corn, sweet	378,130	553,110	526,380	803,100	1,162,020	1,097,300	94.4
Cucumbers for pickles	96,360	96,660	99,280	141,408	149,784	---	---
Peas, green 2/	333,600	483,260	476,200	260,260	407,030	365,660	89.8
Pimientos	14,520	10,990	7,280	17,700	8,570	10,840	126.5
Spinach 3/	15,597	13,130	20,450	40,320	40,700	67,400	165.6
Tomatoes	449,400	602,430	605,650	2,010,800	2,659,100	3,173,800	119.4
Total	1,480,767	2,078,250	2,067,770	3,687,698	5,007,604	---	---

1/ Rough estimate. 2/ Production reported on shelled basis. 3/ California and Texas only.

Table 6.- Potatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944

Group and State	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Harvested 1933-42 average	Harvested 1943	For harvest 1944	1933-42 average	1943	Indicated 1944	1933-42 average	1943	Indicated 1944
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.
Early									
12 States	456.4	636.6	585.5	94.1	104.2	93.3	43,191	66,339	54,643
Intermediate:									
7 States	287.3	304.9	278.9	110.2	114.1	80.9	31,444	34,774	22,565
Late surplus:									
3 Eastern	563	592	577	167.9	205.8	176.0	94,419	121,819	101,530
5 Central	896	858	739	85.6	102.7	90.8	75,654	88,084	67,119
10 Western	459.7	584.0	512.9	175.2	202.4	200.0	79,747	118,210	102,577
18 States	1,918.8	2,034.0	1,828.9	131.6	161.3	148.3	249,821	328,113	271,226
Late, other:									
5 New England	60.7	77.0	73.4	151.3	142.2	147.5	9,163	10,947	10,830
5 Central	315	257	234	92.9	88.8	70.6	28,699	22,833	16,515
2 Southwestern	6.4	12.5	12.1	92.6	132.0	149.6	594	1,650	1,810
12 States	382.4	346.5	319.5	102.2	102.3	91.3	38,456	35,430	29,155
Late, Total:									
30 States	2,301.2	2,380.5	2,148.4	126.8	152.7	139.8	288,276	363,543	300,381
37 late and intermediate	2,588.5	2,685.4	2,427.3	124.9	148.3	133.0	319,721	398,317	322,946
Total, United States	3,044.9	3,322.0	3,012.8	120.1	139.9	125.3	362,912	464,656	377,589

Table 7.- Potatoes: Unweighted average prices per 100 pounds for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 when quoted) at shipping points and terminal markets, indicated periods, 1943 and 1944

Location and variety	1943		1944			
	Month	Week ended	Month		Week ended	
	Aug.	Sept. 18	July	Aug.	Sept. 9	Sept. 1
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
F.o.b. shipping points:						
Onley, Va., Cobbler	---	---	1/3.16	---	---	---
Kaw Valley, Kansas, Cobbler	---	---	2.60	---	---	---
Central N. J. points, Cobbler	2.37	2.57	3.12	3.14	2.73	3.20
Gilcrest, Colo. and nearby points, Cobbler and Bliss Triumph	2.20	2/2.35	---	2.64	2.49	2.48
Rochester, N. Y., various varieties 1/	---	2.43	---	---	2.70	2.91
Waupaca, Wis., various varieties 1/	---	2.09	---	---	2.70	2.78
Terminal markets:						
New York:						
Long White, Calif.	4.47	---	4.74	3/5.14	---	---
Cobbler, N. C.	---	---	3.45	---	---	---
" Va.	---	---	3.22	---	---	---
" L. I.	2.47	2.50	3.06	3.31	2.93	3.03
" N. J.	2.45	---	3.23	3.51	---	---
Chippewa, L. I.	2.49	2.64	---	3.21	3.12	3.26
Green Mt., L. I.	2.42	2.65	---	3.26	3.09	3.31
Russet Burbank, Idaho	4.38	4.14	---	4.61	4.57	4.54
Average, excluding western	2.50	2.59	3.22	3.32	3.04	3.19
Chicago:						
Long White, Calif. 1/	4/3.46	---	4.16	3/3.95	---	3.18
Bliss Triumph, Colo.	3.12	3.25	5/5.26	6/3.54	3.36	---
" " Idaho	3.08	---	4.21	3.73	---	---
" " N.D. and S.D. 6/	---	2.63	---	2.78	2.56	2.42
" " Wis.	2.40	2.86	---	---	3.14	3.28
Chippewa, Wis. 6/	2.42	2.43	---	---	2.88	2.95
Cobbler, average all States	2.62	2.51	3.01	3.32	2.78	2.49
Red Warba, Nebr.	2.99	---	---	3.79	3.18	---
Russet Burbank, Idaho	3.54	3.35	---	3.74	3.63	3.51

Compiled from records of the Office of Distribution.
1/ U. S. No. 1 Size A. 2/ Red McClure. 3/ Washington. 4/ Idaho. 5/ Arizona. 6/ Unwashed.

Table 8.- Sweetpotatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944

Group and State	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Harvested 1933-42 average	Harvested 1943	For harvest 1944	1933-42 average	1943	Indicated 1944	1933-42 average	1943	Indicated 1944
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.
Central Atlantic 1/	62	59	60	126	95	115	7,824	5,631	6,910
Lower Atlantic 2/	271	309	293	83	83	86	22,608	25,703	25,100
South Central 3/	430	488	440	78	78	76	33,453	37,920	33,429
North Central 4/	23.6	20.8	19.5	86	87	96	2,026	1,818	1,875
California	11	12	12	114	125	120	1,269	1,500	1,440
Total, United States	797.7	888.8	824.5	84.3	81.7	83.4	67,182	72,572	68,754

1/ New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia.
2/ North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.
3/ Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas.
4/ Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, and Kansas.

Table 9.- Sweetpotatoes: Unweighted average wholesale prices per bushel for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 when quoted), at New York and Chicago, indicated periods, 1943 and 1944

Market and type	1943			1944			
	Month	Week ended		Month		Week ended	
	August	Sept. 11	Sept. 18	July	Aug.	Sept. 9	Sept. 16
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
New York:							
Golden, N. C.	4.70	-	-	-	-	-	-
" , Md.	3.98	3.15	3.23	-	3.04	2.59	2.55
" , Va.	3.87	-	2.81	-	2.77	2.25	2.12
Jersey, N. J.	-	3.81	3.88	4.84	-	-	3.16
" , Va.	3.97	2.44	2.83	-	2.83	2.09	1.97
Porto Rican, N.C., S.C.	4.63	3.71	3.62	-	3.32	2.75	2.68
" " , Va.	3.87	3.00	3.21	-	3.06	2.19	2.09
Average all varieties	4.67	3.08	3.21	4.63	3.20	2.38	2.36
Chicago:							
Triumph, Ala.	-	-	-	5.65	-	-	-
Nancy Hall, Tenn.	3.82	3.22	3.16	-	3.28	2.48	2.28
Porto Rican, La.	4.45	3.38	3.26	5.64	3.59	2.91	2.81
" " , Tenn.	4.12	-	3.24	-	-	2.69	2.50
Average all varieties	4.15	3.34	3.24	5.64	3.58	2.74	2.62

Compiled from records of the Office of Distribution

Table 10.- Beans, dry, edible: Acreage, yeild per acre, and production, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944

Group of States	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production 1/		
	Harvested		For harvest 1944	Average 1933-42	1943	Indicated 1944	Average 1933-42	1943	Indicated 1944
	Average 1933-42	1943							
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Maine, Vt., N. Y., Mich., Wis., and Minn. 2/	704	753	796	821	852	650	5,782	6,414	5,17
Nebr., Mont., Idaho, Wyo., Wash., Oreg., N. Dak , and S. Dak. 3/	204	426	328	1,350	1,275	1,322	2,754	5,430	4,33
Kans., Colo., N. Mex., Ariz., Utah, and Tex. 4/	496	779	627	430	528	515	2,132	4,110	3,22
Calif. 5/	350	442	411	1,272	1,169	1,203	4,470	5,169	4,94
Total, United States	1,756	2,400	2,162	858.7	880.1	818.0	15,133	21,123	17,68

1/ Bags of 100 pounds, uncleaned beans; includes beans for seed.
2/ Largely pea beans, but most important source also of Red Kidney, Yelloweye, and Cranberry.
3/ Largely Great Northern, but Idaho also is the most important source of Small Reds. North and South Dakota included in 1943 and 1944.
4/ Largely Pinto beans. Texas included in 1943 and 1944.
5/ Miscellaneous varieties, mostly Lima, Baby Lima, Blackeye, Small White, and Pin

Table 11.- Peas, dry, field: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944 1/

State	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Harvested		For harvest 1944	Average 1933-42	1943	Indicated 1944	Average 1933-42	1943	Indicated 1944
	Average 1933-42	1943							
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	1,000 bags 2/	1,000 bags 2/	1,000 bags 2
Mich.	8	1	---	762	650	---	60	6	---
Wis.	11	8	3	750	870	800	79	70	24
N. Dak.	---	10	10	---	950	900	---	95	90
Mont.	26	56	36	1,097	1,120	1,200	283	627	432
Idaho	77	241	222	1,130	1,380	1,200	873	3,326	2,664
Wyo.	---	2	1	---	1,200	1,200	---	24	12
Colo.	16	34	31	787	800	1,050	132	272	326
Wash.	122	390	363	1,274	1,450	1,320	1,624	5,655	4,792
Oreg.	3/ 6	53	50	3/ 1,264	1,500	1,150	3/ 106	795	575
9 States	266	795	716	1,153	1,367	1,245	3,148	10,870	8,915

1/ In principal commercial producing States. Includes peas grown for seed and cannery peas harvested dry.
2/ Bags of 100 pounds (uncleaned).
3/ Short-time average.